

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A stackable member for supporting cells forming a battery comprising:
a molded plastic module having a generally planar base, and a perimetrical wall
upstanding from and at least partially surrounding said base, said base and said wall defining an
interior compartment for accommodating said cells; and
means for stackably interconnecting one said module to another said module so as to
arrange said cells in a vertically stacked array.
2. A stackable member of claim 1 wherein said perimetrical wall includes air flow openings
therethrough.
3. A stackable member of claim 1 wherein said base is generally rectangular having an
upper battery supporting surface and an opposed lower surface and wherein said perimetrical
wall includes a pair of side walls and a back wall between said side walls to define an open front
face.
4. A stackable member of claim 3 wherein said upper surface of said base includes a
plurality of spaced apart ribs upstanding therefrom for supporting said cells above said upper
surface.
5. A stackable member of claim 4 wherein said lower surface of said base includes
strengthening ribs.
6. A stackable member of claim 3 wherein said side walls define an upper edge surface and
wherein said interconnecting means includes cooperative interconnecting structure on said lower
surface of said base and said upper edge surface of said side walls.
7. A stackable module of claim 6 wherein said interconnecting structure includes a
deflectable insertable snap formed on one of said lower surface of said base and said upper edge
surface of said side walls, and a receptacle for insertably receiving said snap formed on the other
of said lower surface of said base and said upper surface of said side walls.

8. A stackable member of claim 6 wherein said lower surface of said base includes a perimetrical rib about the peripheral edge thereof for engagement with said upper edge surface of said side walls for restricting movement between adjacent vertically stacked modules.

9. A stackable member of claim 6 wherein said side walls include an elongate passage extending vertically therethrough for permitting accommodation of an elongate rod through adjacent vertically stacked modules.

10. A stackable module of claim 3 wherein said base includes an elongate horizontal channel extending along the front face of said module for receiving an elongate rod for positionally confining horizontally adjacent modules.

11. A stable module of claim 3 wherein said side wall includes stiffening ribs molded therein.

12. A stable module of claim 11 wherein said stiffening ribs are arranged in a grid-like pattern.

13. A stackable module for supporting cells forming part of a battery, comprising:

a support base comprising:

a generally rectangular horizontal central portion;

a lip upstanding from and integrally formed with said central portion along at least one edge thereof, including at least one throughbore extending vertically therethrough for receiving rod means for vertically aligning two or more of said stackable housing modules for stacking and including at least one upwardly opening closed bottom receptacle formed in an upwardly facing planar surface of said lip;

said lip being of first width measured transversely to said central portion edge along which said lip extends proximate the longitudinal midpoint of

said lip and of greater width measured proximate the longitudinal extremities of said lip;

said closed-bottom receptacles being in said first width lip portion and said throughbores being in said second width lip portion and outboard of a longitudinal projection of said first lip portion;

a side piece adapted for complementary contact along a downwardly facing surface thereof with said upwardly facing surface of said lip, for supporting a second module resting on said stackable module including at least one throughbore extending vertically aligning two or more of said stackable housing modules for stacking and comprising:

at least one upwardly facing projection member of generally parallelepiped configuration extending from an upwardly facing planar surface of said side piece and sized for complementally engaging said downwardly opening closed bottom receptacle in said lip of an overlying one of said stackable modules;

said side piece being of first width measured transversely to said base edge along which said complementally contacting lip extends proximate the longitudinal midpoint of said side piece and of greater width proximate the longitudinal extremities of said side piece;

said projection members being in said first width side piece portion and said throughbores being in said second width side piece portion outboard of a longitudinal projection of said first side piece portion.

14. The stackable module of claim 13 wherein said support base comprises a pair of generally rectangular horizontal support base members adapted for abutting contact one with another any symmetrically about a line defined by said abutting contact.

15. The stackable module of claim 14 wherein said support base further comprises an intermediate leaf member adapted for complementally separating said symmetrical rectangular horizontal support base portions.

16. The stackable module of claim 13 wherein said support base further comprises extrusion profiles for spacing apart cells supported by said rectangular horizontal support base.

16. The stackable module of claim 13 wherein said lip extends around three sides of said support base and further comprising three side pieces adapted for complemental contact with said lip along portions of said lip running along said three sides of said support base.

18. A stackable module for supporting cells forming part of a battery, comprising:
a base;

a lip upstanding from said support base, including at least one throughbore for receiving rod means for vertically aligning a plurality of said modules for stacking and including at least one receptacle formed in an upwardly facing surface of said lip;

a side piece adapted for complemental contact along a downwardly facing surface thereof with said upwardly facing surface of said lip, for supporting a second module on said stackable module including at least one throughbore extending therethrough for receiving means for aligning two or more of said modules for stacking and including at least one upwardly projecting member extending upwardly from said side piece and configured for complementally engagement with a downwardly opening receptacle in a lip of an overlying stackable module, and a downwardly projecting member extending from said side piece and sized for complementally engaging an upwardly opening receptacle in a lip of an underlying stackable module.

19. A stackable module of claim 18 wherein said bore is generally a rectangular planar member.

20. A stackable module of claim 19 wherein said lip extends along three sides of said bore.